

MIN

That loving wretch that swears,
 'Tis not the bodies marry, but the minds,
 Which he in her angelick finds,
 Would swear as justly, that he hears,
 In that day's rude hoarse minstrelsy, the spheres. *Donne.*

I began,
 Wrapt in a pleasing fit of melancholy,
 To meditate my rural minstrelsy,
 Till fancy had her fill. *Milton.*

2. A number of musicians.
 Ministring spirits train'd up in feast, and song!
 Such hast thou arm'd the minstrelsy of heav'n. *Milton.*

MINT. *n. f.* [mint, Saxon; *menthe*, Fr. *mentha*, Latin.] A plant.
 The mint is a verticillate plant with labiate flowers, consisting of one leaf, whose upper-lip is arched, and the under-lip divided into three parts; but both of them are so cut, that the flower seems to be divided into four parts, the two lips scarcely appearing: these flowers are collected into thick whorles in some species, but in others they grow in a spike; each flower having four seeds succeeding it, which are inclosed in the flower-cup: it hath a creeping root, and the whole plant has a strong aromatick scent. *Miller.*

Then rubb'd it o'er with newly-gather'd mint,
 A wholesome herb, that breath'd a grateful scent. *Dryden.*

MINT. *n. f.* [munte, Dutch; *myntean*, Fr. *mentha*, Latin.] A plant.
 1. The place where money is coined.
 What is a person's name or face, that receives all his reputation from the mint, and would never have been known had there not been medals. *Addison on ancient Medals.*

2. Any place of invention.
 A man in all the world's new fashion planted,
 That hath a mint of phrases in his brain. *Shakespeare.*

As the mints of calumny are at work, a great number of curious inventions are issued out, which grow current among the party. *Addison's Freeholder, N^o. 7.*

To MINT. *v. a.* [from the noun.]
 1. To coin; to stamp money.
 Another law was, to bring in the silver of the realm to the mint, in making all clipped coins of silver not to be current in payments, without giving any remedy of weight; and so to set the mint on work, and to give way to new coins of silver which should be then minted. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

2. To invent; to forge.
 Look into the titles whereby they hold these new portions of the crown, and you will find them of such natures as may be easily minted. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

MINTAGE. *n. f.* [from mint.]
 1. That which is coined or stamped.
 Its pleasing poison
 The visage quite transforms of him that drinks,
 And the inglorious likeness of a beast
 Fixes instead, unmoulding reasons mintage
 Character'd in the face. *Milton.*

2. The duty paid for coining.
 Sterling ought to be of so pure silver as is called leaf silver, and the minter must add other weight, if the silver be not pure. *Camden's Remains.*

MINTMAN. *n. f.* [mint and man.] One skilled in coining.
 He that thinketh Spain to be some great over-match for this estate, is no good mintman; but takes greatness of kingdoms according to their bulk and currency, and not after their intrinsic value. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

MINTMASTER. *n. f.* [mint and master.]
 1. One who presides in coining.
 That which is coined, as mintmasters confessed, is allayed with about a twelfth part of copper. *Boyle.*

2. One who invents.
 The great mintmasters of these terms, the schoolmen and metaphysicians, have wherewithal to content him. *Locke.*

MINET. *n. f.* [minuet, French.] A stately regular dance.
 The tender creature could not see his fate,
 With whom she'd danc'd a minuet so late. *Stepney.*

John Trot has the assurance to set up for a minuet dancer. *Spectator, N^o. 308.*

MINUM. *n. f.*
 1. [With printers.] A small sort of printing letter.
 2. [With musicians.] A note of slow time, two of which make a semibreve, as two crotchets make a minim; and two quavers a crotchet, and two semiquavers a quaver. *Bailey.*

Oh, he's the courageous captain of compliments; he fights as you sing prickings, keeps time, distance, and proportion; rests his minims, one, two, and the third in your bosom. *Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.*

MINUTE. *adj.* [minutus, Lat.] Small; little; slender; small in bulk; small in consequence.
 Some minute philosophers pretend,
 That with our days our pains and pleasures end. *Denham.*

Such an universal superintendency has the eye and hand of providence over all, even the most minute and inconsiderable things. *South's Sermons.*

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Into small parts the wondrous stone divide,
 Ten thousand of minutest size express
 The same propension which the large possels. *Blackmore.*

The serum is attenuated by circulation, so as to pass into the minutest channels, and become fit nutriment for the body. *Arbutnot on Aliment.*

In all divisions we should consider the larger and more immediate parts of the subject, and not divide it at once into the more minute and remote parts. *Watts's Logic.*

MINUTE. *n. f.* [minutus, Latin.]
 1. The sixtieth part of an hour.
 This man so complete,
 Who was enroll'd 'mongst wonders, and when we,
 Almost with list'ning raptiv'd, could not find
 His hour of speech a minute. *Shakespeare, Henry VIII.*

2. Any small space of time.
 They walk'd about me ev'ry minute while;
 And if I did but stir out of my bed,
 Ready they were to shoot me to the heart. *Shakespeare.*

The speed of gods
 Time counts not, though with swiftest minutes wing'd. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. x.*

Gods! that the world should turn
 On minutes and on moments. *Denham's Sappho.*

Experience does every minute prove the sad truth of this assertion. *South's Sermons.*

Tell her, that I some certainty may bring;
 I go this minute to attend the king. *Dryden's Aurengzebe.*

3. The first draught of any agreement in writing; this is common in the Scottish law: as, have you made a minute of that contract?

To MINUTE. *v. a.* [minuter, French.] To set down in short hints.
 I no sooner heard this critical talk of my works, but I minutely what he had said, and resolv'd to enlarge the plan of my speculations. *Spectator, N^o. 48.*

MINUTE-BOOK. *n. f.* [minute and book.] Book of short hints.

MINUTE-GLASS. *n. f.* [minute and glass.] Glass of which the hand measures a minute.

MINUTELY. *adv.* [from minute.] To a small point; exactly; to the least part; nicely.
 In this posture of mind it was impossible for him to keep that slow pace, and observe minutely that order of ranging all he said, from which results an obvious periphrasis. *Locke.*

Change of night and day,
 And of the seasons ever stealing round,
 Minutely faithful. *Thomson's Summer, l. 40.*

MINUTELY. *adv.* [from minute, the substantive.]
 1. Every minute; with very little time intervening.
 What is it but a continued perpetuated voice from heaven, refunding for ever in our ears? As if it were minutely proclaimed in thunder from heaven, to give men no rest in their sins, no quiet from Christ's importunity till they arise from the mortiferous a state. *Hammond's Fundamentals.*

2. In the following passage it seems rather to be an adjective, as hourly is both the adverb and adjective.
 Now minutely revolts upbraid his faith-breach,
 Those he commands, move only in command,
 Nothing in love. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

MINUTENESS. *n. f.* [from minute.] Smallness; exility; inconsiderableness.
 The animal spirit and insensible particles never fall under our senses by reason of their minuteness. *Bentley's Sermons.*

MINUTE-WATCH. *n. f.* [minute and watch.] A watch in which minutes are more distinctly marked than in common watches which reckon by the hour.
 Casting our eyes upon a minute-watch, we found that from the beginning of the pumping, about two minutes after the coals had been put in glowing, to the total disappearing of the fire, there had passed but three minutes. *Boyle.*

MINX. *n. f.* [contracted, I suppose, from minnick.] A young, pert, wanton girl.
 Lewd minx!
 Come, go with me apart. *Shakespeare.*

Some torches bore, some links,
 Before the proud virago minx. *Hadibras, p. ii.*

She, when but yet a tender minx, began
 To hold the door, but now sets up for man. *Dryden.*

MIRACLE. *n. f.* [miracle, Fr. *miraculum*, Latin.]
 1. A wonder; something above human power.
 Nothing almost sees miracles
 But misery. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*

Virtuous and holy, chosen from above,
 To work exceeding miracles on earth. *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*

Be not offended, nature's miracle
 Thou art allotted to be ta'en by me. *Shakespeare, Henry VI.*

2. [In theology.] An effect above human or natural power, performed in attestation of some truth.
 The miracles of our Lord are peculiarly eminent above the lying wonders of demons, in that they were not made out of vain ostentation of power, and to raise unprofitable amazement; but for the real benefit and advantage of men, by feeding

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feeding the hungry, healing all sorts of diseases, ejecting of devils, and reviving the dead. *Bentley's Sermons.*

MIRACULOUS. *adj.* [miraculus, Fr. from miracle.] Done by miracle; produced by miracle; effected by power more than natural.
 Arithmetical progression might easily demonstrate how fast mankind would increase, overpassing as miraculous, though indeed natural, that example of the Israelites, who were multiplied in two hundred and fifteen years from seventy unto six hundred thousand able men. *Raleigh's Essays.*

Restore this day, for thy great name,
 Unto his ancient and miraculous light. *Herbert.*

Why this strength
 Miraculous yet remaining in those locks?
 His might continues in thee not for naught. *Milton's Ag.*

At the first planting of the Christian religion in the world, God was pleas'd to accompany it with a miraculous power. *Tilkeson.*

MIRACULOUSLY. *adv.* [from miraculous.] By miracle; by power above that of nature.
 It was a singular providence of God, to draw those northern heathen nations down into those Christian parts, where they might receive Christianity, and to mingle nations so remote miraculously, to make one blood and kindred of all people, and each to have knowledge of him. *Spenser on Ireland.*

Turnus was to be slain that very day; and Aeneas, wounded as he was, could not have engaged him in single combat, unless his hurt had been miraculously healed. *Dryden.*

MIRACULOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from miraculous.] The state of being effected by miracle; superiority to natural power.

MIRADOR. *n. f.* [Spanish, from mirar, to look.] A balcony; a gallery whence ladies see shows.
 Mean time your valiant son, who had before
 Gain'd fame, rode round, to ev'ry mirador;
 Beneath each lady's stand a flap he made,
 And bowing, took th' applauses which they paid. *Dryden.*

MIRE. *n. f.* [moer, Dutch.] Mud; dirt at the bottom of water.
 He his rider from her lofty steed
 Would have cast down, and trod in dirty mire. *Fa. Qy.*

Here's that, which is too weak to be a sinner, honest water, which ne'er left man i' th' mire. *Shak. Timon of Athens.*

I'm Ralph himself, your truly squire,
 Wh' has dragg'd your donship out o' th' mire. *Hudibras.*

I appeal to any man's reason, whether it be not better that there should be a distinction of land and sea, than that all should be mire and water. *More's Antidote against Atheism.*

Now plung'd in mire, now by sharp brambles torn. *Roscommon.*

To MIRE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To whelm in the mud; to soil with mud.
 Why had I not, with charitable hand,
 Took up a beggar's issue at my gates?
 Who smere'd thus, and mir'd with infamy,
 I might have laid no part of it is mine. *Shakespeare.*

MIRE. *n. f.* [myr, Welsh; *myra*, Saxon; *mier*, Dutch.] An ant; a pismire.

MIRINESS. *n. f.* [from miry.] Dirtiness; fullness of mire.

MIRKSOME. *n. f.* [mork, dark, Danish.] In the derivatives of this set, no regular orthography is observed: it is common to write murky, to which the rest ought to conform. Dark; obscure.

Through mirksome air her ready way she makes. *F. Qy.*

MIRROR. *n. f.* [mirroir, French; *mirar*, Spanish, to look.]
 1. A looking-glass; any thing which exhibits representations of objects by reflection.
 And in his waters which your mirror make,
 Behold your faces as the crystal bright. *Spenser's Epith.*

That pow'r which gave me eyes the world to view,
 To view myself infus'd an inward light,
 Whereby my soul, as by a mirror true,
 Of her own form may take a perfect sight. *Davies.*

Let's bright the moon,
 But opposite in level'd West was set
 His mirror, with full face borrowing her light
 From him. *Milton's Par. Lost, b. vii.*

Mirror of poets, mirrour of our age,
 Which her whole face beholding on thy stage,
 Pleas'd and displeas'd with her own faults, endures
 A remedy like those whom music cures. *Waller.*

By chance he spy'd a mirror while he spoke,
 And gazing there beheld his alter'd look;
 Wond'ring, he saw his features and his hue,
 So much were chang'd, that scarce himself he knew.

Late as I rang'd the crystal wilds of air,
 In the clear mirrour of thy ruling star,
 I saw, alas! some dread event impend. *Pope.*

It is used for pattern; for that on which the eye ought to be fixed: an exemplar; an archetype.
 The works of nature are no less exact, than if she did both behold and study how to express some absolute shape or mirror always present before her. *Hooker, b. i.*

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O goddess, heavenly bright,
 Mirror of grace and majesty divine. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

How far 't thou, mirror of all martial men? *Shakespeare.*

Mirror of ancient faith in early youth. *Dryden.*

MIRROR-STONE. *n. f.* [selenitex, Lat.] A kind of transparent stone. *Ainsl.*

MIRTH. *n. f.* [mýrthos, Saxon.] Merriment; jollity; gaiety; laughter.
 To give a kingdom for a mirth, to fit,
 And keep the turn of tippling with a slave. *Shakespeare.*

Be large in mirth, anon we'll drink a measure
 The table round. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

His eye begets occasion for his wit;
 For every object that the one doth catch,
 The other turns to a mirth-moving jest. *Shakespeare.*

Most of the appearing mirth in the world is not mirth but art: the wounded spirit is not seen, but walks under a disguise. *South's Sermons.*

With genial joy to warm the soul,
 Bright Helen mix'd a mirth-inspiring bowl. *Pope's Odyssey.*

MIRTHFUL. *adj.* [mirth and full.] Merry; gay; cheerful.
 No simple word,
 That shall be utter'd at our mirthful board,
 Shall make us sad next morning. *B. Johnson, Epigr. 101.*

The feast was serv'd; the bowl was crown'd;
 To the king's pleasure went the mirthful round. *Prior.*

MIRTHLESS. *adj.* [from mirth.] Joyless; cheerless.

MIRY. *adj.* [from mire.]
 1. Deep in mud; muddy.
 Thou should'st have heard how her horse fell, and she under her horse: thou should'st have heard in how miry a place, how she was bemoided. *Shakespeare, Taming of the Shrew.*

All men who lived lazy lives, and died natural deaths, by sickness or by age, went into vast caves under-ground, all dark and miry, full of noisome creatures, and there grovel'd in endless stench and misery. *Temple.*

Deep, through a miry lane she pick'd her way,
 Above her ankle rose the chalky clay. *Gay's Trivia.*

So have I seen ill-coupled hounds
 Drag different ways in miry grounds. *Swift.*

2. Consisting of mire.
 Shall thou and I sit round about some fountain,
 Looking all downwards to behold our checks,
 How they are stain'd like meadows, yet not dry,
 With miry slime left on them by a flood? *Shakespeare.*

MIS, an inseparable particle used in composition to mark an ill sense, or depravation of the meaning: as, *chance*, luck; *mischance*, ill luck; *computation*, reckoning; *miscomputation*, false reckoning; *to like*, to be pleas'd; *to dislike*, to be offended; from *mes* in Teutonic and French, used in the same sense. Of this it is difficult to give all the examples; but those that follow will sufficiently explain it.

MISACCEPTATION. *n. f.* [mis and acceptance.] The act of taking in a wrong sense.

MISADVENTURE. *n. f.* [mesaventure, Fr. *mis* and *adventure*.]
 1. Mischance; misfortune; ill luck; bad fortune.
 Your looks are pale and wild, and do import
 Some misadventure. *Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet.*

When a commander, either upon necessity or misadventure, falleth into danger, it much advanceth both his reputation and enterprise, if bravely he behave himself. *Hayward.*

The body consisted, after all the losses and misadventures, of no less than six thousand foot. *Clarendon, b. viii.*

Distinction betwixt actions of misadventure and of design. *L'Estrange's Fables.*

The trouble of a misadventure now and then, that reaches not his innocence or reputation, may not be an ill way to teach him more caution. *Locke on Education.*

2. [In law.] Manslaughter.
 MISADVENTURED. *adj.* [from misadventure.] Unfortunate.
 From forth the fatal loins of these two foes,
 A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;
 Whole misadventur'd piteous overthrows
 Do with their death bury their parents' strife. *Shakespeare.*

MISADVISED. *adj.* [mis and advised.] Ill directed.

MISAIMED. *adj.* [mis and aim.] Not aimed rightly.
 The idle stroke enforcing furious way,
 Missing the mark of his misaimed light,
 Did fall to ground. *Fairy Queen, b. i.*

MISANTHROPE. *n. f.* [misanthrope, French; *μισανθρωπος*.]
 MISANTHROPOS. *n. f.* A hater of mankind.
 I am misanthropos, and hate mankind. *Shakespeare.*

Alas, poor dean! his only scope
 Was to be held a misanthrope;
 This into gen'ral odium drew him. *Swift's Miscel.*

MISANTHROPY. *n. f.* [misanthropie, Fr. from misanthrope.] Hatred of mankind.

MISAPPLICATION. *n. f.* [mis and application.] Application to a wrong purpose.
 The indistinction of many in the community of name, or the misapplication of the act of one unto another, hath made some doubt thereof. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. v.*

The